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PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED FOR COMMENTS ON VERIZON'S MAY 1st LETTER CONCERNING RELIEF FROM BELL ATLANTIC/GTE MERGER CONDITIONS

CC DOCKET NO. 98-184 J

On May 1, 2001 Verizon filed a letter requesting relief from one of the conditions in the *BA/GTE Merger Order*.¹ The condition at issue requires Verizon to maintain its separate advanced services affiliate for 9 months after a "final and non-appealable judicial decision . . . determines that the separate Advanced Services affiliate must be deemed a successor or assign of the incumbent LEC for purposes of 47 U.S.C. §§ 153(4) or 251(h)." ² Verizon states that it is in the public interest to lift this restriction immediately because it will enable Verizon to bring advanced services to the public more quickly and economically. Specifically, Verizon states that the separate affiliate requirement is hindering its deployment of new technologies and next-generation networks,³ makes it more complicated to do business with large business customers with sophisticated networks and advanced services needs, and increases costs generally.

Interested parties may file comments regarding the Verizon May 1st Letter no later than June 14, 2001, with Magalie Roman Salas, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-B204, Washington, DC 20554. Oppositions or responses to these comments may be filed with the Secretary, FCC, no later than June 21, 2001. All pleadings and correspondence are to reference CC Docket No. 98-141, 98-184. Interested parties should file an original and seven copies of all pleadings. An additional copy of all pleadings must be sent to Janice M. Myles, Common Carrier Bureau, FCC, Room 5-C327, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554, and to the Commission's contractor for public services records duplication, International Transcription Services, Inc. (ITS), 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC

¹ Letter from Gordon R. Evans, Vice President, Federal Regulatory, Verizon, to Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary, FCC (May 1, 2001).

² *In re Applications of GTE Corporation and Bell Atlantic Corporation for Consent to Transfer Control of Domestic and International Sections 214 and 310 Authorizations and Application to Transfer Control of a Submarine Cable Landing License*, 15 FCC Rcd 14032, App. D, Condition 11c (2000) (*BA/GTE Merger Order*).

³ Verizon references a letter dated April 9th describing to the Commission the fiber-fed DLC equipment that it is deploying in its local feeder plant. Verizon seeks to use this architecture to offer wholesale DSL packet transport service to other carriers, as well as to provide retail DSL service to consumers. Letter to from Patricia E. Koch, Assistant Vice President, Federal Regulatory, Verizon to Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary, FCC (April 10, 2001).

20554. The Verizon May 1st Letter is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC's Reference Center, Room CY-A257, and 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. Copies also can be obtained from ITS at 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554 or by calling ITS at (202) 857-3800 or faxing ITS at (202) 857-3805.

Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/efcs.html>. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed (courtesy copies must be filed to the above mentioned persons). If multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, however, commenters must transmit one electronic copy of the comments for each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to efcs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address>." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

We will treat this proceeding as "permit but disclose" for purposes of the Commission's *ex parte* rules. *See generally* 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200-1.1216. Parties making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must contain a summary of the substance of the presentation and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and arguments presented is generally required. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2), as revised. Other rules pertaining to oral and written presentations are set forth in section 1.1206(b) as well. Interested parties are to file with the Secretary, FCC, and serve Janice M. Myles and ITS, with copies of any written *ex parte* presentations or summaries of oral *ex parte* presentations in these proceedings in the manner specified above.

For general information contact Janice M. Myles, Policy and Program Planning Division, Common Carrier Bureau, at (202) 418-1577, e-mail jmyles@fcc.gov.

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